



## Section 1: Introduction

The Wisconsin Medicaid prenatal care coordination (PNCC) benefit was implemented on January 1, 1993. The benefit is based on the 11 successful pilot projects funded and evaluated by the Wisconsin Title V Maternal and Child Health program, in the Division of Health (DOH). The DOH administrator appointed a statewide advisory committee to collaborate with the Bureau of Health Care Financing and the Bureau of Public Health on the development of the Medicaid benefit.

In addition to the Medicaid benefit, the DOH provides Title V funding to many local health departments to provide PNCC services to women who may not be eligible for the Medicaid benefit.

PNCC services help pregnant women and, when appropriate, their families gain access to and coordinate a full array of services, including medical, social, educational, vocational, and other services.

PNCC has several goals, all of which center around improving birth outcomes. The primary goals are to ensure that at-risk women:

- Are identified as early as possible in their pregnancy.
- Receive individual psychosocial support.
- Receive early and continuous prenatal care services.
- Are referred to available community services, as appropriate.

The Division of Health (Bureau of Public Health and Bureau of Health Care Financing) developed this Guidance Manual to help prenatal care coordinators (also referred to as case managers) with this very important job. The Guidance Manual includes helpful hints for administering the initial risk assessment (the Pregnancy Questionnaire). It also provides other information to assist care coordinators in planning an appropriate course of action for the expectant mother.

The Pregnancy Questionnaire is used to determine whether a woman is at high risk for a poor birth outcome. A score of 40 points or more qualifies a woman for Medicaid PNCC benefits. For more information on

eligibility, covered services, and limitations of PNCC services, refer to Part Z, the prenatal care coordination services provider handbook. Refer to Attachment 1 of this manual for a copy of the Pregnancy Questionnaire.

In addition to basic information and guidelines for care coordination, this manual also includes helpful attachments. The attachments are designed for quick reference of material that you will need as you work with the expectant mother. They include the following:

- Estimated Date of Delivery Chart.
- Prenatal Weight Gain Grids.
- Pregnancy Questionnaire.
- State Statutes.
- Table of Medical Conditions.
- For More Information, Contact.

<p>WOMEN WHO TEND TO GET LATE OR NO PRENATAL CARE INCLUDE VERY YOUNG WOMEN, WOMEN ON MEDICAID, AND MINORITY WOMEN.</p>
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You play a vital role in assuring that a woman enrolled for PNCC services receives the care that is essential for a healthy pregnancy and birth. Your role is to help the woman identify her difficulties and eliminate the barriers to prenatal care. In order to help the process, establishing a trusting relationship with the expectant mother is necessary. The sensitive nature of some of the questions in the risk assessment requires you to make the expectant mother feel comfortable enough so she can answer the questions honestly and completely. Since the responses to the questionnaire will guide a plan of care, honest answers are important. Remember that, in general, the information the woman shares with you is confidential; however, the Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services (DHFS) does have access to the information for evaluation and audit purposes.

The PNCC Guidance Manual will assist you in obtaining information that is crucial for a successful partnership between you and the expectant mom. Research shows that proper risk assessment leads to healthier birth outcomes.